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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/027,451	12/20/2001	Mikio Onodera	9281-4255	1511

7590 10/02/2003
Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610

EXAMINER

LEWIS, DAVID LEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2673

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2003

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/027,451

Applicant(s)

ONODERA ET AL.

Examiner

David L Lewis

Art Unit

2673

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 December 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Levin et al. (6154201).

1. **As in claim 1, Levin et al. teaches of** a manual input device comprising a joystick type knob and a rotary knob that are disposed coaxially, **figure 3A and 8**, a first actuator to load an external force on the joystick type knob, **figure 8 item 70**, a second actuator to load an external force on the rotary knob, **column 21 lines 5-20, figure 8 item 70**, a first detector to detect an operation state of the joystick type knob, **figure 8 item 214**, and a second detector to detect an operation state of the rotary knob, **column 21 lines 5-20, figure 8 item 214**. Wherein Levin teaches of a haptic feedback device, figure 1 and figure 3A, that operates as a joystick 50 providing transverse motion in a direction 28 and rotary knob 18 providing rotational motion about the joystick shaft axis, such that the joystick/knob 50/18 rotates and translates, having sensors 214

Art Unit: 2673

to measure said rotation and translation, and actuators 70 to provide a force in both the rotational and translational degree of freedom, as found in claim 1.

2. **As in clam 2**, Levin et al. teaches of wherein further comprising a guide member to define an operation direction of the joystick type knob, figure 3A item 52, column 8 lines 40-50. **As in clam 3**, Levin et al. teaches of wherein further comprising a control unit that controls the first actuator based on a signal supplied from the first detector and controls the second actuator based on a signal supplied from the second detector, the control unit provided in a box that houses the manual input device, figure 8 item 202.

As in clam 4, Levin et al. teaches of wherein further comprising a control unit that controls the first actuator based on a signal supplied from the first detector and controls the second actuator based on a signal supplied from the second detector, the control unit provided in an external apparatus, figure 8 item 224.

3. **As in clam 5**, Levin et al. teaches of an onboard instrument control device, **figure 1**, comprising: electric instrument selection switches to select an electric instrument having a function to be controlled, **column 4 lines 5-50**; and a manual input device to control various functions of the electric instrument selected by use of one of the selection switches, the manual input device comprising a joystick type knob and a rotary knob that are disposed coaxially, **figure 1 item18**, **figure 3A**, a first actuator to load an external force on the joystick type knob, **figure 8 item 70**, a second actuator to load an external force on the rotary knob, **column 21 lines 5-20**, **figure 8 item 70**, a

Art Unit: 2673

first detector to detect an operation state of the joystick type knob, **figure 8 item 214**, and second detector to detect an operation state of the rotary knob, **column 21 lines 5-20, figure 8 item 214**. Wherein Levin teaches of a haptic feedback device, figure 1 and figure 3A, that operates as a joystick 50 providing transverse motion in a direction 28 and rotary knob 18 providing rotational motion about the joystick shaft axis, such that the joystick/knob 50/18 rotates and translates, having sensors 214 to measure said rotation and translation, and actuators 70 to provide a force in both the rotational and translational degree of freedom, as found in claim 5.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David L Lewis whose telephone number is 703 306-3026. The examiner can normally be reached on M, T, TH, F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala can be reached on 703 305-4938.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 305-4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

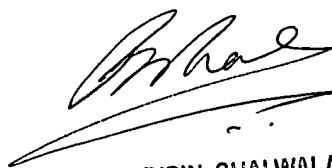
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Art Unit: 2673

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

dll

September 23, 2003



BIPIN SHALWALA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600